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Mukilteo, WA 98275

January 28, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20538

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

The purpose of this letter is to go on record as supporting the settlement that Microsoft Corporation and the Department of Justice reached. This settlement ends more than three years of litigation between the two sides, and paves the way for a much improved IT industry and economy.

Microsoft's competitors will be the biggest benefactors of this settlement, but if that helps the industry and the economy, then I support it. Microsoft will be giving its competitors source code that is used in the internal design of Windows. They are also allowing their competitors to remove certain Microsoft programs from Windows and to replace it with their own. This will improve competition in the industry and will force competitors to work hard to develop a good product. More competition will result in more consumers in the stores.

This settlement works, and I support it. I hope it is approved as soon as possible. Thank you.

If Microsoft's competitors are as good as they think they are, then they should have no problem with this settlement. To take it further would penalize Microsoft and give unfair advantage to its competitors. If they want more, let them improve their product.

Sincerely,

*Doris Eastman*  
Doris Eastman